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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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[redacted] 25X1

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Precision Engineering Works, Lisen, Antonin Zapotocky Plant in Brno-Lisen	DATE DISTR.	21 June 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Antonin Zapotocky Plant of the Precision Engineering Works, Lisen, National Enterprise, is located two km. east of Brno, and north of the Brno-Lisen streetcar line. The Julianov-Lisen road forms its northern boundary. Its southern boundary is formed by the streetcar tracks and the Stranska Skala hill.

2. The plant was built in 1941-42 by the German Flugmotorenwerke Ostmark.. It occupies an area of 1,200 x 1,000 meters, is surrounded by a 2½-meter-high wire fence and is illuminated at night. In 1944 the plant was heavily damaged in an air raid but was reconstructed and expanded in the years 1945-46. Production halls are now of ferro-concrete. There are two main gates to the plant: one entrance for vehicles, one for pedestrians (workers, visitors, etc.). The administrative building is 160 x 20 meters, with offices, personnel department, wages-accounting office, security department, etc. It is a one-story brick house, with a standard roof. In the middle of this building is the main entrance with a guardroom. The main production halls stretch along the west side of the plant. The controls department is a one-story building, 30 x 20 meters, connected by a corridor with a production hall, 120 x 160 meters. Below the controls department are storerooms, in a wooden building 20 x 100 meters. Two storerooms are along the west side of the plant. Next to the storerooms are two production halls of ferro-concrete construction, 120 x 160 meters, in which ball bearings are produced on conveyor belts. The third line consists of administrative buildings. In the first building, 160 x 20 meters, are offices of the works council and of the foremen. In another building are technical offices and the construction department. This building has only a ground floor, is of brick and is "U"-shaped; size is 160 x 100 x 15 meters. Three more brick one-story buildings of the same size, 10 x 100 meters, are in one line. In the first one is the works kitchen, in the second are a medical office, a dental office, and a welfare department, and in the last one are more offices. The fourth row of buildings consists of production halls of ferro-concrete construction, where tractors are produced; the size of these halls is 120 x 160 meters. Zetor 25, Zetor 35, and Skoda 30 tractors are made here.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

STATE	x	ARMY	x	NAVY	x	AIR	x	FBI		AEC		ORR Ev	x		

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

Construction of two similar production halls was started in the spring of 1952 and has been completed. An industrial railroad track for the use of the factory runs along the south and west sides of the plant. In the south, beyond these rails, there are some more factory buildings. On the western side is the power plant and the boiler house in one building, 60 x 80 meters, of ferro-concrete construction. Further below is a one-story brick building, 100 x 10 meters, with a guardroom, personnel department, reception offices and billets for the factory militia. In this building is also the main gate. Slightly eastward are garages and sheds for firefighting equipment. The size of the building is 80 x 20 meters. In the last building are ball bearings stores and the head office. It is a four-story brick house. The head office also includes the main construction, production, and sales departments.

3. Ball bearings are produced on special grinding machines, mainly of German origin, which were installed by a German firm, Kugelfischer of Schweinfurt. About 200 machines are in one production hall.

4. The hall where tractors are produced is new and most of the machines are of Czech manufacture, e.g., turning lathes, planing machine, vertical and horizontal milling machines, grinding machines, Storek presses, and machine tools produced by Skoda, TOS-Kurim, and TOS-Celakovice. The assembly lines are in the first hall in the northern part of the plant. The tractor hall is well equipped technically.

5. The plant at Lisen was previously engaged on production of textile machinery, later transferred to the Severočeske Strojirny[1] (North Bohemian Machine Works) at Rumburk and at Chrastava. Production of tractors was transferred to Lisen from the CZ[2] of Brno and from the V.I. Lenin Works (Skoda) in Pilsen in January 1952. At present the plant at Lisen is the only factory making tractors in Czechoslovakia. The production capacity is 6 to 7,000 tractors. The plant also produces roller and ball bearings of all sizes. The plants at Klasterec nad Ohri and at Loket are subordinate to the Zapotocky Plant at Lisen. They produce ball-bearing parts; the main assembly is done in the Loket factory.

6. The Five-Year Plan was only being fulfilled 85% on the average, owing to a high rate of absenteeism and to a shortage of good quality material from the Poldina Foundry of the United Steelworks, National Enterprise, in Kladno.

7. The total number of employees was approximately 4,500; they worked in three shifts. The morning shift was manned by 2,000 workers, the second by 1,500, and the night shift by 1,000. A large number of employees are first-class experts. 35% of the workers are women, operating mainly automatic machines and presses. There were no brigade workers in the plant.

8. The works manager was Frantisek Casta, of Vrchlabi, where he was employed at the car-body factory.[3] Chief construction engineer was Eng. Jaroslav Dvořak, 40 years old, formerly employed with the Storek firm. Head of the construction department was Jan Hrabcik, an expert, member of the C.P.C. A recognized expert on ball bearings was Eng. Druckmueller (fnu). The head of the cadre department was Josef Smerda.

9. High-voltage current is supplied by the Kninicska power plant via a transformer. Gas is supplied by the Brno gas works, and steam is produced in the plant's machine shop.

10. About 25% of the total ball-bearing production went straight to the USSR. Deliveries of machinery to Russia were even higher. The Lisen plant supplied all Czechoslovak factories with ball bearings of good quality.

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1. There is no plant by this name listed at either Rumburk or Chrastava in the telephone directory for 1951-1952.

2. Perhaps the Zbrojovka Brno (Brno Armament Works) is meant. There is no plant of the Ceska Zbrojovka (Czech Armament Works) in Brno.

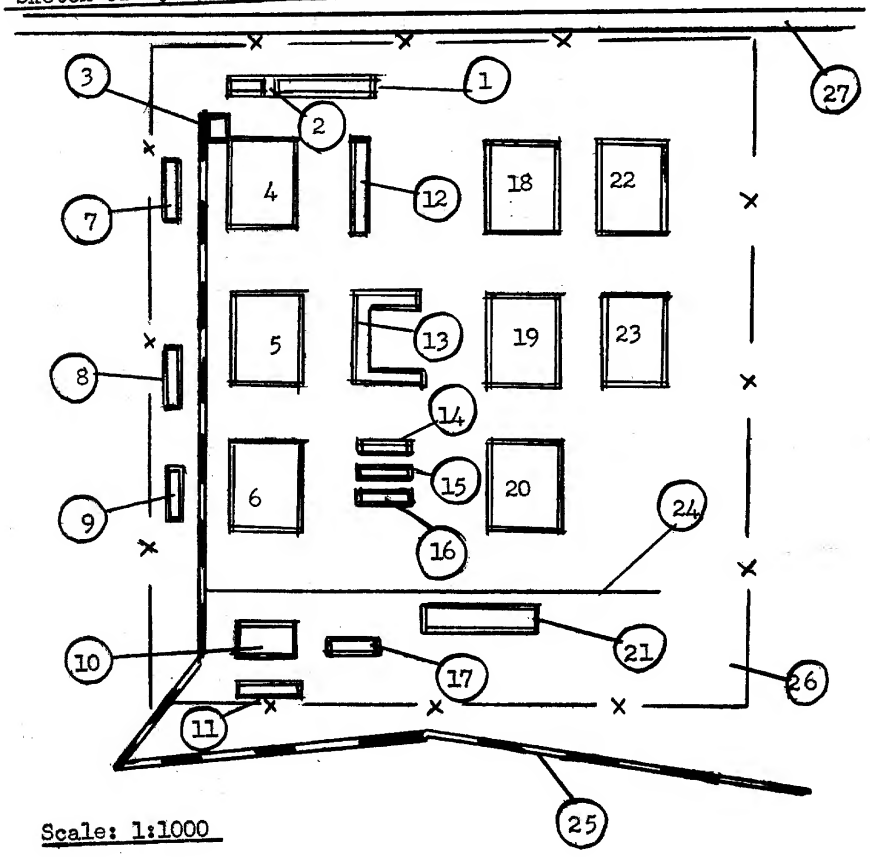
3. Presumably the Vrchlabi plant of the AZNP (Automobile Works National Enterprise).

Legend:

1. Administrative building.
2. Gate for motor vehicles.
3. Controls department.
4. Production hall.
5. and 6. Ball-bearing production halls.
7,8,9. Storerooms.
10. Power plant and boiler house.
11. Offices.
12. Offices of works council and of foremen.
13. Technical and construction department.
14. Works kitchen.
15. Sick room, dentist's room.
16. Offices.
17. Offices.
18, 19, 20. Tractor production halls.
21. Storerooms for ball bearings, and head office.
22, 23. New production halls under construction.
24. Railroad tracks.
25. Brno-Lisen streetcar line.
26. Fence.
27. Julianov-Lisen road.

25X1

Sketch of A.Zapotocky Factory Brno-Lisen



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